

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING ACCESS TO A DATA****5 STREAM BY A PLURALITY OF USERS AT A SAME TIME**

10 An apparatus and method for providing access to a
data stream by a plurality of users at a same time. The
apparatus and method include a data stream splitter
manager which listens for new connections from client
15 devices. When a new connection from a client device is
identified, the data stream splitter manager generates a
pseudo-terminal for the client device and adds the client
device and pseudo-terminal information to a data stream
splitter table. In addition, if a data stream splitter
20 is not already established for handling data transfer
between the data stream splitter manager and a requested
resource, a new data stream splitter may be generated to
handle the data transfer. Thereafter, the data stream
splitter searches the data stream splitter table for
25 client devices participating in a session for sharing the
system resource. Data from a data stream associated with
the shared system resource is sent by the data stream
splitter to the pseudo-terminals associated with the
client devices. Data from the client devices is sent to
30 the pseudo-terminals and then to the data stream via the
data stream splitter. In this way, each client device
involved in the session has full access to the shared
system resource and output from the shared system
resource is provided to each of the client devices
involved in the session.